

REMARKS

Upon further review, the applicants believe that claims 13-22 are directed to non-elected Species II of Figs. 4 and 5. Claims 13-22 are therefore canceled herein. In addition, previously withdrawn claims 3-6 are also canceled.

Claims 1 and 23 have been amended. New claims 24-35 are added. Claims 1, 2, 7-12, and 23-35 are pending in this application.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1 and 23 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 4,625,936 to Hadden, Sr. ("Hadden") is requested. It is believed that amended independent claims 1 and 23 are not anticipated by Hadden for the reasons given below.

Regarding claim 1, Hadden does not disclose or suggest "the line holder having a radially-extending opening for insertion of a line to be held" in combination with "the line holder having flexible portions that extend outwardly from a periphery of the line holder on the opposite sides of the radially-extending opening through which the line to be held is inserted." None of Hadden's hanger means 28 disclosed in Figs. 25-27 has "flexible portions that extend outwardly from a periphery of the line holder on the opposite sides of the radially-extending opening through which the line to be held is inserted."

Regarding claim 23, Hadden does not disclose or suggest "the elongated support member comprising a wire" in combination with "the wire being free from any axial opening therethrough." Instead, all of Hadden's body portions 40A and 40B have associated axial apertures or passages 52, 52B through which a cable 202 extends as shown in Figs. 20, 21. (See, for example, Hadden, col. 9, lines 38-43, and col. 10, line 64 to col. 11, line 16.) Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1 and 23 are not anticipated by Hadden, and hence withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection thereof is respectfully requested.

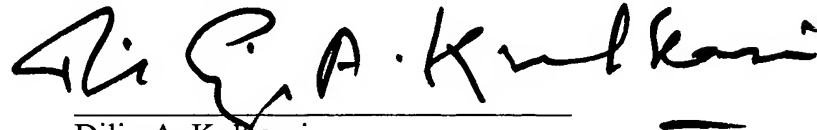
Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 2 and 7-12 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Hadden is requested. Claims 2 and 7-12 depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable over Hadden for the reasons given above in support of claim 1.

New claims 24 and 25 depend from claim 23, and are therefore patentable over Hadden for the reasons given above in support of claim 23. New claims 26-35 depend from claim 1, and are therefore patentable over Hadden for the reasons given above in support of claim 1.

In view of the foregoing amendment and supporting remarks, the subject application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview would expedite the allowance of this application, he is requested to contact the undersigned for a prompt resolution of any outstanding issues.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and shortages and other fees be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435, with reference to file 7175-74603.

Respectfully submitted,
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